

**Interagency Wildfire Management Team  
Meeting Notes  
April 19, 2006**

Note: Given the potentially serious fire conditions during the fire season of 2006, the IWMT has compiled a Fire Prevention Message to assist the public in preventing wildfires. This message was printed in the Los Alamos Monitor last Sunday and is also included as an attachment to these notes.

Gene Darling (Emergency Management and Response, LANL) announced that LANL this week implemented work restrictions in forested or undeveloped areas on Laboratory property because of continued drought conditions and the high risk of wildfire. In addition, recreational activities are restricted in most undeveloped areas. See Notice 174 for details.

Lawrence Garcia (Santa Fe National Forest) announced that Stage 1 restrictions have been issued for the forest east of Highway 285. Open campfires and smoking are restricted on affected National Forest lands. As always, fireworks are prohibited on all National Forest lands. Lawrence also reported that the Ruidoso Peak fire is burning in about 3 acres east of Pecos. Finally, Lawrence announced that the helicopter has arrived for service at TA-49. The early arrival of this helicopter was made possible by severity funding.

Manny L'Esperance (Emergency Management and Response, LANL) is continuing mitigation of fire hazards and creation of defensible space in sections of Los Alamos Canyon, DP Canyon and Pajarito Canyon. Piles of timber and slash in the DX and ESA areas are also being removed. Manny is also collaborating on the scheduling of work at the firing sites in an effort to maintain the desired schedule in spite of work restrictions at LANL.

Randy Balice (Emergency Operations Office, LANL) has installed the updated Farsite input files at the EOC. The fire behavior modeling system is now updated to include fuels and other conditions as of the summer of 2005. Also, Randy and Bruce Masse wrote an article describing the changeable drought and fire conditions common to the Los Alamos region. This article, which was entitled "Oh, For the Good Old Days?", was included in the recent Earth Day 2006 section of the Los Alamos Monitor.

Gary Kemp (Bandelier National Monument) reported that the last fire refresher course is been conducted today. The pack test is scheduled for April 27 at 9 AM. Gary also reported that a 3000-gallon pumpkin tank is being installed on monument land near Forest Service Road 289 (Dome Road).

Bill Gentile (NNSA, Los Alamos Site Office) is updating the agreement that authorizes the interagency fire center activities at TA-49.

The next IWMT meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, May 3, at the EOC (TA-69, Building 33) in the Fire TAC Room (124). The IWMT meets every other week and these meetings are open to the public. Contact Randy Balice (balice@lanl.gov, 665-1270) for further information, or to get on the distribution list for these meeting notes.